

# HOUSE BILL 666

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By: **Delegates Queen, Guyton, and Lierman**  
Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2020  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workgroup on Screening Related to Adverse Childhood Experiences**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup on Screening Related to Adverse Childhood  
4 Experiences; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Workgroup;  
5 prohibiting a member of the Workgroup from receiving certain compensation, but  
6 authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Workgroup to  
7 update, improve, and develop certain screening tools, submit certain screening tools  
8 to the Maryland Department of Health, study certain actions, and make certain  
9 recommendations; requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and  
10 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain  
11 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the  
12 Workgroup on Screening Related to Adverse Childhood Experiences.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That:

15 (a) There is a Workgroup on Screening Related to Adverse Childhood  
16 Experiences.

17 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

18 (1) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's  
19 designee;

20 (2) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

21 (3) the following members, appointed by the Secretary of Health:

22 (i) one mental health expert;

23 (ii) one managed care plan expert;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) one behavioral health expert;

2 (iv) one child welfare expert; and

3 (v) one primary care provider who performs physical examinations  
4 on children entering school for the first time;

5 (4) one parent of a child in a public primary or secondary school, appointed  
6 by the State Superintendent of Schools;

7 (5) one representative of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association,  
8 designated by the President of the Association; and

9 (6) one representative of the Maryland Psychological Association,  
10 designated by the President of the Association.

11 (c) The Workgroup shall elect the chair of the Workgroup by a majority vote at  
12 the first meeting.

13 (d) The Maryland Department of Health shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

14 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

15 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

16 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
17 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

18 (f) On or before July 1, 2021, the Workgroup shall:

19 (1) update, improve, and develop screening tools that primary care  
20 providers can use in a primary care setting to identify and treat minors who have a mental  
21 health disorder that may be caused by or related to an adverse childhood experience;

22 (2) submit the screening tools to the Maryland Department of Health;

23 (3) recommend changes to the physical examination form that the State  
24 Department of Education requires of all new students entering a public school, including  
25 requiring that a physical examination include an assessment of trauma; and

26 (4) study and make recommendations on the actions a primary care  
27 provider should take after screening a minor for a mental health disorder that may be  
28 caused by or related to an adverse childhood experience and finding that the minor shows  
29 signs of trauma.

30 (g) On or before July 1, 2021, the Workgroup shall report its findings and

1 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State  
2 Government Article, the General Assembly.

3           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
4 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2022,  
5 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and  
6 of no further force and effect.